

Ahnentafel Report for Willis Sharpe Kilmer

Generation 1

1. **Willis Sharpe Kilmer** son of Jonas M Kilmer and Julia E Sharpe was born on 18 Oct 1868 in Brooklyn, New York[1, 2]. He died on 12 Jul 1940 in Windsor, New York.

Notes for Willis Sharpe Kilmer:
General Notes:

Willis Sharpe Kilmer was born on the first anniversary of the United States' acquisition of Alaska from Russia. He was born in the year that the Great Train Robbery took place near Marshfield, Indiana, as seven members of the Reno gang made off with \$96,000 in cash, gold and bonds.

Source:<http://home.mindspring.com/~railroadstories/rrmmv1n1/great1.htm>

Willis Sharpe Kilmer is my half second cousin, once removed. Our ancestor in common is John Elsefer Sharp, Willis' great grandfather and my great, great grandfather. Willis is descended through John and his first wife, Eve Markle. I am descended through John and his second wife, Elizabeth Bodine.

Willis Sharpe Kilmer's was born October 18, 1868 in Brooklyn, New York. His family moved to Binghamton, New York in 1878 where he lived the rest of his life, which ended in 1941.

"Binghamton is a [city](#) in the [Southern Tier](#) of [New York](#) in the [United States](#). It is near the [Pennsylvania](#) border, in a bowl-shaped valley at the confluence of the [Susquehanna](#) and [Chenango](#) Rivers. Binghamton is the [county seat](#) of [Broome County](#) and is the principal city and cultural center of the [Greater Binghamton](#) metropolitan area (also known as the [Triple Cities](#)), home to a quarter million people. The population of the city itself, according to the [2010 census](#), is 47,376.

"The city was named after [William Bingham](#), a wealthy Philadelphian who bought the surrounding land in 1792. Before that, the first known people of European descent to come to the area were the troops of the [Sullivan Expedition](#) in 1779, during the [American Revolutionary War](#).

"The community was first settled around 1802 at the junction of the Susquehanna and Chenango rivers and was known as **Chenango Point**. Binghamton was first incorporated in 1834 as a [village](#) of the [Town of Binghamton](#). Binghamton became a city in 1867. Abel Bennett, who was elected as secretary on January 30, 1845 of the Pennsylvania Coal Company, was the city's first mayor. His extensive property on the city's west side is known as the [Abel Bennett Tract](#)."*

*http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Binghamton,_New_York

The Cleveland (Ohio) Plain Dealer newspaper article by Dan Parker in the Sunday, December 8, 1946 issue provides very interesting information on Willis Sharpe Kilmer, published some six years after his death. The heading claimed, "Everything the Patent Medicine King Touched Turned to Gold - Even Horse Racing." He was known to have amassed a \$10 million plus fortune mostly on a cure-all patent medicine known as Swamp Root, but also in newspaper publishing, real estate development and horse racing.

The greatest medicine he gave the public was what was considered a bag of horse bones named Exterminator, the winner of the Kentucky Derby on May 11, 1918 in a field of eight contenders. The jockey riding the winner was William Knapp, the breeder was F. D Knight and the trainer was Henry McDaniel. In 1928, Willis was the breeder for the winner of the Kentucky Derby, Reigh Count. That horse was ridden by jockey Charlie Lang, trained by Bert Mitchell, and owned by Mrs. John D. Hertz. That same year, Reigh Count was voted the American Award for Horse of the Year. Also in that 1928 Derby, Willis owned the 11th place horse out of 22 running, Sun Beau. The rider was jockey John Craigmyle and the trainer was Charles W. Carroll. Willis, of course, was the breeder as well. This horse racing

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information came from an Internet search on Willis' name.

Another major source of the Kilmer family wealth under the leadership of Willis was vast elements of real estate development. He built the first sky scrapper in Binghamton, New York, a towering six stories high! It was the Kilmer Building, 141 Chenango Street, built in 1903, which was originally used as the home of the Kilmer product, Swamp Root. It was at the corner of Chenango and Lewis Streets

"When you step off the railroad train, the Swamp-Root laboratory is the first striking object that confronts you - a beautiful, white, high-towering building." This description of a first impression on arriving in Binghamton and seeing the Kilmer Building, appeared in a 1917 issue of *New York Sunday World*. The article continued: "In many respects this building stands unique. The main office is wholly unlike anything of the kind in the country. The massive columns of solid marble and beautiful hand-carved molding, cornices and ceiling, and the marble mosaic floor, is of a type that forces admiration."*

Even in 2010 when the Kilmer Building was undergoing renovation (there have been several owners over the years), the project head was quoted as saying about the Kilmer Building that it is "one of the last riveted steel buildings made, and will probably be here for another 500 years."*

*<http://nyslandmarks.com/treasures/07sep.htm>

About 1914, Kilmer brought Alfred (Fred) Lansing Sharpe up from Texas to manage his buildings. Fred is a first cousin to Willis' mother, Julia Sharpe Kilmer. In 1904, Fred had become the first Republican elected to a state office in Texas, following the Days of Reconstruction, Post War Between the States. In 1916, Fred's life ended with a self-inflicted gunshot wound, following an argument and shooting of Fred's daughter, Holland.

He generally was referred to by his full name of Willis Sharpe Kilmer, with the emphasis on the middle name. This not only accounted for the strong heritage of his Mother, but a general acknowledgement about the acumen he was perceived to possess. This reflected his success in the four wildly divergent endeavors he pursued, medicine, publishing, real estate development and horse racing.

Kilmer was age ten when the family moved to Binghamton. His father obtained an interest in the proprietary medicine business owned by Dr. S. Andral Kilmer, Willis' uncle. Their product, Swamp Root, was reputed to be a cure-all for kidney, liver and bladder ailments. During those years, the business was mostly in and around Binghamton.

This all changed when Willis returned home from his Cornell University education in marketing. His first step was to insert advertisements in small newspapers all over the country. It was one of the first national advertising campaigns in the country, a bold act which almost drove the small company into bankruptcy. However, sales gradually increased into a steady stream of growing and significant business.

All went well with the Kilmers until the turn of the century, when newspapers and magazines began to attack patent medicine firms which made extravagant claims for their products. Swamp Root, the maiden aunt's favorite beverage when she wanted to get a "glow" without losing her membership in the Women's Christian Temperance Union, was as high on the list of nostrums under fire as it was in alcoholic content - 12%.

The result of the campaign against the medicine makers was to bring about stricter regulatory laws.

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By this time, young Kilmer, now in control of the company, had come to regard the City of Binghamton as his feudal estate. Many of the townsmen worked for him and the Kilmer wealth had a powerful influence on the local politics.

Kilmer was a big, impressive looking man, six feet one inch tall, weighing 215 pounds and crowned with a shock of iron gray hair, which later turned pure white (that's a description of me today, except I'm not quite all white hair yet). Under beetling eyebrows, he had a pair of piercing blue-gray eyes which turned dark whenever he was challenged. An immaculate dresser, he always carried a cane as his scepter of office as Baron of Binghamton. If common folk weren't frightened or at least awed by all these props, there was the Baron's deep, booming voice to keep them in line.

More extensive light is shown in the following material taken from Seward's History of Binghamton and Broome County, pages 148-149. I've paraphrased it for you.

Swamp Root is still available on the market today, and I purchased four bottles recently at over \$5 each for the four ounce bottles! I notice it is 10% alcohol, which I assume adds to its attractiveness.

In 2004, I was phoned by Steven Palmatier, who lives in Greene, New York, near the Binghamton area. We planned to compare some which he has. Steven is the grandson of a man who was an employee of Willis Sharpe Kilmer, and a distant relative of Willis. I am indebted to Steven for sharing much of his Willis Sharpe Kilmer files, which has enabled me to enhance greatly this report on Mr. Kilmer.

Steven told me that Willis died while at his country estate, Sky Lake, outside of Windsor, New York. It is now a Methodist Camp (conference meeting grounds). Kilmer also was a founding member of the Binghamton Country Club, being an admirer of the sport of playing golf.

There is a very interesting source on the Internet giving a narrative about Willis Sharpe Kilmer, by a Mr. John E. Golley, (e-mail: ByGolley@email.msn.com) at the web site address: <http://www.antiquebottles.com/kilmer.html>. Below is an excerpt:

"Willis Sharpe Kilmer was born in Brooklyn, New York on October 18, 1869. He graduated from Cornell University in 1880 and went to work in the family business. Willis was put in charge of the advertising department of Dr. Kilmer and Company, which led to a swift increase in business. Advertising in the late 1800's was not the "science" that it is today and Willis Sharpe Kilmer was one of advertising's earliest pioneers. His first wife was Beatrice Richardson whose socially prominent father was one of the brightest executives in a fledgling newspaper advertising agency in New York City. Willis Kilmer had a more metropolitan upbringing than many of his peers and his relationship with Mr. Richardson and his family connections all helped benefit Willis and his new ideas. Dr. Kilmer and Company utilized all the forms of advertising of the day, including painted wooden signs, posters and printed circulars, but with the entrance of Willis' leadership, began purchasing advertisement space in newspapers expounding the virtues of their numerous cures and they were amongst the fore-runners in printing Almanacs, which not only would list the normal items such as moon phases, best planting times and the like, but at every turn of the page, listed one or more of the products, printed testimonials for the same and helped diagnose 'ailments' of which one of their products would 'cure.'

"The packaging of their products was also easily noticed on the shelf. For ease of finding the correct cure, their Heart Remedy had an embossed heart on it, Swamp Root Kidney Cure had a kidney embossed on it and so forth, and their packaging was bright orange with the likeness of a whiskered Dr. S. Andral Kilmer printed boldly on the front. The package also invited customers to write to Dr. Kilmer for advice and prescription, which, long after Dr. S. Andral Kilmer had sold his share of the business, caused Dr. Kilmer to initiate a lawsuit against his brother and nephew in which he accused Dr. Kilmer and Company of

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representing him as the physician in charge of their medical department and also, that they pretended to give medical advice and prescribe medicines for diseases which they pretended to diagnose. When a lower court ruled against Dr. Kilmer and Company, Willis pursued the suit in The Appellate Court, and in 1917, the decision against the company was reversed. It was Willis Sharpe Kilmer's advertising prowess as well as his 'muscle' via political and professional contacts that made Swamp Root a household word. When other patent medicines were losing popularity, due to The Pure Food and Drug Act, as well as an increased respect for medical science, SwampRoot was still filling the Kilmer coffers. When asked what Swamp Root was good for, Willis Kilmer once replied, 'About a million dollars a year!'

"Patent medicine wasn't the only thing Willis Sharp Kilmer was involved in. On April 11, 1904, Mr. Kilmer founded The Binghamton Press, which became a very well-respected newspaper in the country. It has been alleged, although never proven, that he started the newspaper for the purpose of putting The Binghamton Evening Herald out of business and he could also control the advertising of various patent medicines and any articles condemning the same. There were several people such as Samuel Hopkins Adams, who were very much against patent medicines and were lobbying very hard for the passage of The Pure Food and Drug Act. Mr. Kilmer was very successful in 'squashing their stories and did eventually put The Evening Herald, run by his long-time personal and political enemy Guy Beardsley, out of business. Mr. Beardsley later sued Willis Sharpe Kilmer, charging conspiracy to put him out of business; Beardsley lost the suit.

"Willis Sharpe Kilmer was also a very fine judge of horses. The family mansion is still located on Riverside Drive in Binghamton, and on the surrounding grounds, Mr. Kilmer built Sun Briar Court, which had a 1/5 mile indoor track, an outdoor track connected to a half-mile circular track, 100 fire-proof stalls, and the main stable included offices, quarters and a clubhouse. The Kilmer racing colors were brown, green and orange and he owned many fine horses; Genie, the son of Man O'War, Sun Briar, Sun Beau and Exterminator, which won the 1918 Kentucky Derby, and was the leading money winner for four straight seasons. SunBeau held the American record for money won until Sea Biscuit broke the record in 1939. Mr. Kilmer owned a large estate on the Rappahannock River in Virginia known as Remlik (Kilmer spelled backwards) as well as a game preserve near Binghamton called Sky Lake. He was a pioneer in forest and game preservation in New York as well as in Virginia. He established the Kilmer Pathological Laboratory in Binghamton and started Binghamton's first nine-hole golf course, which later became the Binghamton Country Club.

"Willis Sharpe Kilmer died of pneumonia on July 12, 1940, leaving an estate estimated at \$10 to \$15 million dollars, and is interred in the family mausoleum in Floral Park Cemetery in Binghamton, New York.

"After World War II, his second wife, Sarah Jane Wells, sold the rights to make and manufacture Swamp Root to Medtech Laboratories of Cody, Wyoming. The six-story Kilmer Building, built in 1902 after the original building was damaged by fire, still stands at 141 Chenango Street and Swamp Root was still on the shelves of the E. C. McKallor Drug Company in Binghamton in 1983. It can still be ordered today, more than almost 120 years after it was first produced, a testament to the advertising skill of Willis Sharpe Kilmer and the strength of the Kilmer name and reputation.

About in 1914,

Steven Palmatier loaned me a paper-bound book, well over 100 pages long, that used as the catalog for cautioning off the race horse stock of Willis' estate on October 30, 1940 at the Farm, Court Manor, near New Market, Virginia. The elaborate book gave the schedule for the day, including lunch, displayed an inventory of all the stallions, weanlings, and brood mares, had an individual page devoted for the genealogy and pedigree of each of the 102 horses being sold, including photographs of a number of them, and a table showing the race winnings of Kilmer annually, totaling \$3,919,519 for the previous 18 years. This, of

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course were not all of his winnings, for we know he owned a Kentucky Derby winner in 1918. This table of winnings begins at 1922. The book states that Kilmer's horses had won over 220 races in 1940 alone. The Forward in the book thoroughly establishes the preeminence of Willis Sharpe Kilmer in the world of thoroughbred horse racing.

Here is a web site that gives a history for Exterminator, who it shows won over a quarter of a million dollars in his races:

<http://www.thoroughbredchampions.com/gallery/exterator.htm>

Bingham was an interesting town. "Located in the Southern Tier of New York state where the Susquehanna and Chenango rivers meet, the city is the birthplace of IBM, Endicott-Johnson Shoes and the Link Co., which developed flight training simulators. Binghamton is home to cartoonist Johnny Hart, creator of "B.C." and "Wizard of Id." Also born there: TV producer and 'The Twilight Zone' creator Rod Serling."

Source:<http://www.gannett.com/about/map/ataglance/ingham.htm>

Death Notes:
Pneumonia

Sarah Jane Emily Wells daughter of Ephraim Rayworth Wells and Laura Millicent Oulton was born about 1896 in Pennsylvania[3]. She died about 1985.

Notes for Sarah Jane Emily Wells:
General Notes:

Sarah Jane, as a Pennsylvania-born young lady, is recorded as residing in the 1920 US Census at the home of her sister, Mary and her husband, John Quinn. Florence, another sister, is also shown residing there.

We do not know why the three daughters lived there, but possibly their parents by then had become deceased. Sarah is shown as having the occupation of a Milliner.

Willis Sharpe Kilmer and Sarah Jane Emily Wells were married after 1920[4]. They had no children.

Beatrice Richardson daughter of Robert Richardson was born in 1873.

Notes for Beatrice Richardson:
General Notes:

Willis Sharpe Kilmer's first wife was Beatrice Richardson, whose socially prominent father was one of the brightest executives in a fledgling newspaper advertising agency in New York City.

Source: <http://www.antiquebottles.com/kilmer.html>

Beatrice was born the year Enrico Caruso (2/25/1873 - 8/2/1921), the Italian operatic tenor, was born.

Source:http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enrico_Caruso

Willis Sharpe Kilmer's first wife was Beatrice Richardson whose socially prominent father was one of the brightest executives in a fledgling newspaper advertising agency in New York

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City.

Source:<http://www.glswrk-auction.com/037.htm>

Willis Sharpe Kilmer and Beatrice Richardson were married in 1895[5]. They had no children.

Generation 2

2. **Jonas M Kilmer** son of Daniel Kilmer and Maria Shafer[6] was born on 11 Apr 1843 in Cobleskill, Schoharie County, New York[1]. He died in 1912 in Binghamton, Broome County, New York.

Notes for Jonas M Kilmer:
General Notes:

Jonas was president of the patent medicine company as well as the local bank. In addition, he developed real estate in the Binghamton area, according my friend, Steven Palmatier.

The 1888, 1889 and 1890 Binghamton Telephone Directories list him at Dr. Kilmer & Company, #14 Virgil.

Source Information: Ancestry.com Binghamton, New York Directories, 1888-90. [database online] Provo, UT: Ancestry.com, 2000. Originaldata: Binghamton, NY, 1888: J. E. Williams, 1888. Binghamton, NY, 1889: J. E. Williams, 1889. Binghamton, NY, 1890: J. E. Williams, 1890.

Jonas was a graduate of the Bryant and Stratton Business College in Albany, after which he worked for a year in the general store of Joseph Taylor of Schoharie Court House, and then worked the next eighteen years in the mercantile business in New York City with several different firms, rising to important positions. His brother convinced him to move to Binghamton in 1881, where he ran the business end of the "patent medicine" business as an equal partner. In 1892 he bought out Dr. S. Andral Kilmer's interest in the company, though some would say he "swindled" his brother in the deal; the purchase price is unknown. Jonas' son, Willis Sharpe Kilmer, became the Head of Advertising for the company, and business began to increase rapidly. The company was incorporated in 1909 as Dr. Kilmer & Company and had branch offices in New York, Chicago, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil and Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies.

In 1899, Jonas Kilmer was elected Director of The People's Bank of Binghamton, in which capacity he served from October 2, 1899 until February 9, 1907. Then he was elected President; he served in this capacity until his death. On December 4, 1907, he was chosen as a trustee of Binghamton Savings Bank and also served as President of the Binghamton Press from 1904 until his death. People's Bank merged with Broome County Trust Company on April 20, 1914 and became People's Trust Company. From 1893 to 1908, Jonas Kilmer also served as a member of the Board of Police Commissioners. Jonas Kilmer died in Binghamton in 1912, but not without first giving all the credit of the success of the family business to his son, Willis Sharpe Kilmer.

Source: <http://www.antiquebottles.com/kilmer.html>

3. **Julia E Sharpe** daughter of Peter G. Sharpe and Christiana Brown[6] was born on 05 Mar 1847 in New York[6]. She died between 06 Jul-10 Aug 1912.

Notes for Julia E Sharpe:

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General Notes:

Julia Sharpe is a half first cousin, twice removed to me.

In the same year that Julia was born, Thomas Alva Edison (2/11/1847 -10/18/1931), the American inventor holding 1,093 patents, was born. Thomas A. Edison, one of the premiere inventors in American History, is the sixth cousin, once removed, to United States President, Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt. Teddy is the fifth cousin to U S President Franklin D. Roosevelt, my half eighth cousin. Also, Teddy's niece, Eleanor Roosevelt, married President Franklin D. Roosevelt. So again we see much indirect relationship with very interesting personalities of our historic American stage

Julia was born the year that Joseph Pulitzer, influential 19th-century American newspaper editor and publisher, was born in Hungary, on April 10, 1847. The year of Julia's birth also brought into the world Scottish born inventor, Alexander Graham Bell.

Source: <http://www.thomasedison.com/biog.htm>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_Graham_Bell
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Pulitzer

It may be conjectured that the family was Presbyterian in its Christian affiliation, since Julia left \$2,000 in her will to the North Presbyterian Church, which is at 38 Broad Avenue, Binghamton, New York.

She detailed various funds and items of value to named relatives and friends that totaled over \$160,000. So, the share to the church certainly was modest. The residue and remainder of her estate was left to her son and only child, Willis Sharpe Kilmer. There was no public estimate of the value of that residue.

Source: Binghamton Press, August 15, 1912, article, "Mrs. J. M. Kilmer Remembers Many," about distribution of her will.

A Daughters of the American Revolution inquiry I made in 2007 about any of its members being proven from American Revolutionary soldier, Lt. George P. Sharp, they said that Julia Sharpe Kilmer was the very first member confirmed as descended from Lt. Sharp.

According to a 2011-11-23 e-mail I received from Sheldon Gosline of New York, he said that Julia did not remarry following Jonas' death.

Jonas M Kilmer and Julia E Sharpe were married in 1869[6]. They had the following children:

- +1. i. **Willis Sharpe Kilmer** was born on 18 Oct 1868 in Brooklyn, New York[1, 2]. He married Sarah Jane Emily Wells after 1920[4]. He died on 12 Jul 1940 in Windsor, New York.

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4. **Daniel Kilmer** son of Johannes I Kilmer and Anna Margaretha Sipperlee[7] was born on 07 Jan 1800 in New York, USA[7]. He died on 04 May 1859 in New York[6].
5. **Maria Shafer**[6, 7] was born on 06 Jan 1802 in New York[6]. She died on 01 May 1890[7].

Daniel Kilmer and Maria Shafer married. They had the following children:

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i. **Aurelia Kilmer.**

Notes for Aurelia Kilmer:
General Notes:

Her first husband, Napoleon Palmatiers, died. She remarried a Mr.Pangburn.

ii. **Augustus Kilmer.**

Notes for Augustus Kilmer:
General Notes:

Augustus Kilmer established the Kilmer Manufacturing Company in Newburgh, New York which manufactured baling ties and wire fencing.

Source: <http://www.antiquebottles.com/kilmer.html>

iii. **Thomas J. Kilmer.** He died between 1906-1912.

Notes for Thomas J. Kilmer:
General Notes:

Thomas J. Kilmer, was a physician in Schoharie, New York and several old bottles from the Dr. Kilmer & Company patent medicines, embossed with his name, are known to exist.

Source: <http://www.antiquebottles.com/kilmer.html>

iv. **Andrew G. Kilmer** was born on 05 Jan 1835 in Barnerville, New York. He died on 13 Dec 1908.

Notes for Andrew G. Kilmer:
General Notes:

Andrew G. Kilmer, gave up his life work as a teacher (He had been Associate Principal of the Schoharie Academy, Vice-President of the Franklin Institute, Principal of the grade school in Cobleskill and Principle of the Academy in Bainbridge, New York. He also organized the academy in Schenevus, with much success.) and entered the business office of Dr. Kilmer and Company and later, was the Assistant Superintendent of the Sanitarium.

Source: <http://www.antiquebottles.com/kilmer.html>

v. **Sylvester Andral Kilmer** was born on 19 Dec 1840 in Cobleskill, Schoharie County, New York. He died on 14 Jan 1924 in Binghamton, Broome County, New York.

Notes for Sylvester Andral Kilmer:
General Notes:

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Dr. Sylvester Andral Kilmer originated the Dr. Kilmer & Company, Inc., into which his brother, Jonas M. Kilmer purchased a share of ownership. Andral became president, and, at his decease, Jonas' son, Willis, became president.

Andral was the only physician in the family. He sold his Cancertorium to a Mr. Davis. He conducted a Bible college in Binghamton. The school was said still running in 2011 under the Practical Bible College name, but I cannot verify that.

Here is an interesting biographical sketch of him found on theInternet:

"Dr. Sylvester Andral Kilmer, MD was born in Cobleskill, New York on December 19, 1840, one of eleven children of Daniel and Maria Shaver Kilmer. He attended the log school in Cobleskill, the Schoharie Academy and then the Warnerville and Richmondville Seminaries. At the age of eighteen, he entered the office of Dr. Scott, a prominent Allopathic physician in Schoharie County, New York. Wishing to get away from the "one school" idea, he then studied with Dr. Downing who had been called the successful pioneer of Homeopathy in the Schoharie region of New York State. Dr. S. Andral Kilmer started his own practice of medicine as county physician at Barnerville, Schoharie County. Following through with the idea of a broad acquaintance with medicine and surgery, he studied Eclectic and Botanic Practice with Dr. Patrick of Wisconsin. He attended the preliminary and regular course of the Bellevue Hospital and Medical College in New York City, where he had instruction at the Eye and Ear Infirmary on Blackwell's Island and other hospitals. He also received a special practical course at the Philadelphia Lying-In-Charity Hospital, where he received instruction in Practical Obstetrics and Diseases of Women; he also received similar instruction at the Central Dispensary of Chicago. He received further instruction at the Philadelphia School of Operative Surgery under the special tutelage of the noted physician Dr. D. Hayes Agnew and he also had a diploma from the Bennett Medical College of Chicago. After a successful tour of medical lectures and practice in the West, he settled in Binghamton, New York.

"In Binghamton, he was first employed in visiting Binghamton and the surrounding cities on advertised days, in which practice Dr. Kilmer was so famous and successful that he was soon enabled to begin erection of his Laboratory buildings for the preparation of his remedies, which became necessary to supply the ever increasing demand. In 1878 his brother, Jonas Kilmer, moved to Binghamton to run the business end of the proprietary medicine business, and in 1892, Jonas bought out Dr. S. Andral Kilmer's share of the business. Their first major laboratory and manufacturing plant was located at the corners of Chenango and Virgil Streets in Binghamton. Dr. Kilmer prepared many different medicines, some of which were Dr. Kilmer's Ocean Weed Heart Remedy, Female Remedy, Indian Cough and Consumption Cure, Autumn Leaf Extract, U & O Ointment and Prompt Parilla Pills, but the most well known remedy was Dr. Kilmer's Swamp Root Kidney Liver and Bladder Cure. Swamp Root contained Buchu leaves, Oil of Juniper, Oil of Birch, Colombo Root, Swamp-Sassafras, Balsam Copaiba, Balsam Tolu, Skullcap leaves, Venice Turpentine, Valerian Root, Rhubarb Root, Mandrake Root, Peppermint herb, Aloes, Cinnamon and sugar and contained approximately 9 to 10-1/2% alcohol.

"In the years prior to Dr. Kilmer's sale of his interest in the proprietary medicine business, during its growth and increasing professional services, Dr. Kilmer kept looking for a place which included the peculiar properties required

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and known only to him. He located such a place in Osborne Hollow, situated approximately ten miles east of Binghamton, where there was a sulpho-phosphate spring. He induced the towns people to rename the area Sanitaria Springs, and, at a cost of \$100,000, he built a Sanitarium and Hydrotherapium in 1892. The outside grounds were a well-arranged system of natural parks and the buildings contained every modern convenience of their time including electric lights, steam heaters and elevators. In addition to the sulpho-phosphate spring, there were ten others including the Blue Lithia, Red Iron, Black Magnetic and Ferro-Manganese. All types of baths were in use summer and winter, including Sulphur, Turkish, Russian and Electric. Dr. Kilmer's son, Ulysses, was employed as Associate Superintendent, and a daughter, Edith, was the Librarian. Another of Dr. S. Andral's brothers, Andrew G. Kilmer, gave up his life work as a teacher. He had been Associate Principal of the Schoharie Academy, Vice-President of the Franklin Institute, Principal of the grade school in Cobleskill and Principle of the Academy in Bainbridge, New York. He also organized the academy in Schenevus, with much success. and entered the business office of Dr. Kilmer and Company and later, was the Assistant Superintendent of the Sanitarium. Andrew Kilmer was my maternal grandmother, Alice Cooper Kisselburgh's great-grandfather. She and her sister used to visit him and Uncle Sylvester at the sanitarium in the summer when they were young. It was also around this time that Dr. S. Andral Kilmer began formally treating patients for cancer, both at the Sanitarium and also at his Cancertorium at 254 Conklin Avenue in Binghamton. He advertised his cancer cure nationally and would pay train fare to the Sanitarium upon commitment of a stay of three to six months to effect the cure. He advocated a homeopathic approach to the treatment of this disease, which involved a controlled diet, treatment with the different springs as well as a secret medicine which, after a time, would cause the cancer to be expelled from the body; they would literally fall off. My grandmother and her sister had both been witness to these treatments and witnessed the results first-hand, and swore that they had seen the eradications occur. Dr. Kilmer was decidedly against plasters, radium, x-rays and surgery on these cancers, as he felt that not only did they injure the patient, but they caused the cancers to be harder to treat and might even cause them to spread. At this period of time in Binghamton, there was a very heated clash between the traditional medical doctors and the homeopathic doctors; they wouldn't even work in the same hospitals together. Dr. Kilmer had been trained in both practices, but leaned more toward the homeopathic and all opathic teachings. This fact, as well as his ties to the proprietary medicine business, keep him under constant scrutiny by the "old school" doctors of his time. His assertions of having a cure for cancer, which they felt was impossible given his methods, made him the brunt of ridicule by his colleagues. He offered to share his knowledge in the non-surgical treatment of cancer with them, according to conversations his daughter, Hattie Marguerite, had with my grandmother, but his help was refused and rebuffed, and he was so professionally ridiculed by his colleagues, that he took the secrets of his "cure" to his grave. The patients who were treated by Dr. Kilmer held him in high esteem, and he was treating patients three days before his death of a cerebral hemorrhage. He died in his home at 44 Beethoven Street in Binghamton on January 14, 1924. Whether or not he had a cure for cancer is open to conjecture - my grandmother and her sister would both state a resolute yes. However, testimonials and the like, especially of that era, quite often are, at best, questionable; my only thought is...what if?

"Dr. S. Andral Kilmer and Jonas M. Kilmer had two other brothers who were also in business for themselves. Augustus Kilmer established the Kilmer Manufacturing Company in Newburgh, New York, which manufactured baling

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ties and wire fencing. Another brother, Thomas J. Kilmer, was a physician in Schoharie, New York, and several old bottles embossed with his name are known to exist. "

Source:<http://www.antiquebottles.com/kilmer.html>

+2. vi. **Jonas M Kilmer**[6] was born on 11 Apr 1843 in Cobleskill, Schoharie County, New York[1]. He married Julia E Sharpe in 1869[6]. He died in 1912 in Binghamton, Broome County, New York.

6. **Peter G. Sharpe** son of John Elsefer Sharp and Eve Markle was born on 25 Nov 1813. He died on 15 Aug 1893 in Sharon Spings, Schoharie County, New York[8].

Notes for Peter G. Sharpe:

General Notes:

Peter was born the same year as was born Henry Ward Beecher (6/24/1813- 3/8/1887), a theologically liberal American Congregational minister of renown. Rev. Beecher's sister, Harriet Beecher Stowe was the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," the book published in 1852 which treats slavery as a central theme and contributed to growing public emotion that contributed to the forces which created the War Between the States.

Source:http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Ward_Beecher

Peter owned the Sharon House Hotel situated on the Northeast corner of Centre and South Streets in Sharon Springs, Schoharie County, NewYork. It was constructed in the early 1850's and he opened the Hotel in 1882. The hotel burned on November 21, 1926, over thirty years after his death. Suzanne and I visited its site during our visit to New York State in 1988.

Source: "New Topographical Atlas," Schohaire County, New York)

7. **Christiana Brown** was born about 01 May 1818. She died on 23 Sep 1865[8].

Notes for Christiana Brown:

General Notes:

Her Christian character is given testimony on her grave marker, "A friend of the friendless, a faithful wife, an affectionate mother, a consistent Christian."

Peter G. Sharpe and Christiana Brown married.They had the following children:

i. **Peter G. Sharpe.**

ii. **Mary Jane Sharpe** was born in 1846. She died in 1903.

+3. iii. **Julia E Sharpe**[6] was born on 05 Mar 1847 in New York[6]. She married Jonas M Kilmer in 1869[6]. She died between 06 Jul-10 Aug 1912.

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Generation 3

- iv. **John W. Sharpe** was born on 25 Feb 1850. He died on 12 Mar 1898[9].
- v. **Gertrude Sharpe** was born in 1855. She died in 1922.
- vi. **Allie Sharpe** was born in 1859. She died in 1941.

Notes for Allie Sharpe:
General Notes:

Allie Sharp was born in the same year that ground was broken for the Suez Canal on April 25, 1859. In that year, abolitionist John Brown, hoping to start an anti-slavery rebellion on October 16, led 21 men in a raid on a federal armory at Harpers Ferry in present-day West Virginia. (The raid was put down and Brown was executed for treason.)

Sources: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suez_Canal
<http://www.wvculture.org/History/jnobrown.html>

Generation 4

- 8. **Johannes I Kilmer**[7] was born on 16 Aug 1763 in Germantown, Columbia, New York, USA [7]. He died on 27 Jan 1849 in Schoharie, Schoharie, New York, United States[7].
- 9. **Anna Margaretha Sipperlee**[7] was born in 1763 in New York, USA[7]. She died in 1835 in New York, USA[7].

Johannes I Kilmer and Anna Margaretha Sipperlee married.They had the following children:

- +4. i. **Daniel Kilmer**[7] was born on 07 Jan 1800 in New York, USA[7]. He died on 04 May 1859 in New York[6].
- 12. **John Elsefer Sharp** son of George P. Sharp and Margaret Rebecca Teater was born on 16 Jul 1787 in Germantown, Columbia County, NY. He died on 22 May 1862 in Sharon Spings, Schoharie County, New York[10].

Notes for John Elsefer Sharp:
General Notes:

John Elsefer Sharp spent all of his life in New York state. He was born in 1787, just as the nation was being born and was trying to learn how to govern itself.

The New York State Assembly imposed duties on foreign goods. The Philadelphia Convention met to frame what became the United States Constitution, which was signed that year and the ratification process by the states began. The United States Federal Government was formally established. Future U.S. President John Adams wrote "A Defence of the Constitution of Government of the U.S.A." President Adams was the husband of Abigail Smith, a 29th cousin, four times removed to me. About that same time, another future U.S. President, James Madison, wrote, "The Vices of the Political System of the United States." President Monroe is my 31st cousin, twice removed.

American inventor John Fitch (1743-1798) launched a steamboat in 1787 to operate on the Delaware River. The Dollar currency was introduced in the United States.

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Source: "The Timetables of History" 3rd Revised Edition, Bernard Grun, Simon & Schuster, New York 1991, pages 364-365.

John is my great, great grandfather. Suzanne and I located the gravesite of John and Elizabeth in Sharon Springs, New York while on an exploratory trip in 1988. Our photographs of this grave site represents the oldest grave markers we have discovered in my Sharpe lineage.

Actually, we located a public campground nearby and went into the little town to what may have been the only eating establishment. We had a very friendly conversation with the waitress, who learned of the genealogical interest for our visit. She immediately put us in touch with the town genealogist. The genealogist ably led us to the cemetery, where we discovered our family members. Truly, it was a fun and rewarding experience, and I cannot say enough about the winsomeness of those citizens for us in that little, beautiful New York town of Sharon Springs, New York.

13. **Eve Markle** was born on 31 May 1791. She died on 10 Jun 1826 in Sharon Springs, Schoharie County, New York[10].

John Elsefer Sharp and Eve Markle were married before 1811. They had the following children:

- i. **Jacon Sharp**.
- ii. **Julia Ann Sharp** was born about 1811. She died in 1901 in Sharon Spings, Schoharie County, New York.
- +6. iii. **Peter G. Sharpe** was born on 25 Nov 1813. He died on 15 Aug 1893 in Sharon Spings, Schoharie County, New York[8].
- iv. **Rebecca Sharp** was born about 1814. She married Seth P. Branch in Ravenna, Portage County, Ohio.
- v. **Henry Sharp** was born on 22 Jul 1819. He died on 12 Dec 1831 in Sharon Spings, Schoharie County, New York[11, 12].

Notes for Henry Sharp:
General Notes:

In the year of Henry's birth, Queen Victoria (5/24/1819 - 1/22/1901), Britain's longest-reigning monarch, was born.

Source: <http://www.britannia.com/history/monarchs/mon58.html>

Death Notes:
Died of Small Pox

- vi. **David Sharp** was born on 30 May 1821.
- vii. **Mary Sharp** was born about 1822.
- viii. **Emiline Levenia** was born about 1824 in Schohaire County, New York. She

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died on 12 Mar 1860 in Sharon Spings, Schoharie County, New York.

- ix. **John Sharp** was born in May 1826. He died on 10 Sep 1826[13].

Notes for John Sharp:

Death Notes:

Died in infancy

Elizabeth Bodine was born about 1797 in Montgomery County, New York. She died on 07 Jul 1860 in Sharon Springs, New York[10].

John Elsefer Sharp and Elizabeth Bodine were married about 1812. They had the following children:

- i. **John Elsefer Sharp II**[14] was born on 25 Jan 1830 in Sharon Spring, Schoharie County, New York. He married Sarah Lavenna Kellogg in 1857 in Charleston, Portage County, Ohio[15]. He died on 18 May 1897 in Ravenna, Portage County, Ohio.

Notes for John Elsefer Sharp II:

General Notes:

The year John Elsefer Sharp II was born, the 21st President of the United States, Chester A. Arthur was elected. Emily Dickinson, an American poet, was born. Belva Lockwood was born. She became the first woman lawyer to practice before the Supreme Court and to be nominated for the US Presidency. John was born the year of the birth of Caroline Astor (9/22/1830 - 10/30/1908), the American aristocratic leader of New York high society.

Sources: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caroline_Webster_Schermerhorn_Astor

"The Timetables of History" 3rd Revised Edition, Bernard Grun, Simon & Schuster, New York 1991, page 392-395.

The first passenger railroad in the United States began service between Baltimore and Elliott's Mills, Maryland on May 24, 1830, the year of John's birth. Later in John's life, he worked for the Erie Railroad. Such was his occupation reflected in the US Census of 1880 for his household.

The family at this stage continued in the Lutheran Church, the historic Christian practice of his ancestry. He moved his family from Sharon Springs, Schoharie County, New York to Ravenna, Portage County, Ohio about 1850.

Ravenna [ra'ven:a], the Italian city for which Ravenna, Ohio is named, is a [city](#) and [comune](#) in the [Emilia-Romagna](#) region of [Italy](#). The city is inland, but is connected to the [Adriatic Sea](#) by a canal. Ravenna was the [capital city](#) of the [Western Roman Empire](#) from 402 until 476. It was later the capital of the [Kingdom of the Ostrogoths](#) and the [Exarchate of Ravenna](#) until 751. From that year until the invasion of [Franks](#), it was the seat of the king of the [Lombards](#) and equalled to [Pavia](#) by [Aistulf](#). It is presently the capital of the [Province of Ravenna](#). At 652.89 km² (252.08 sq mi), Ravenna is the second-largest [comune](#) in land area in Italy, although it is only a little more than half the size of the largest, [Rome](#).

Though John Elsefer Sharp II was first listed as a farmer in the 1860 Census and a stone mason in the 1870 Census, it is thought that John spent most of

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his career working on the Erie Railroad. We have located no military record for him during the War Between the States.

Shown in the 1880 Census was a 19 year old white female servant named Phoebe Roberts living in the household. This possibly indicates some degree affluence for the family.

John died the year William McKinley was inaugurated as President of the United States, later to be assassinated. The electron was discovered by J. J. Thomson that year, and it was Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee year. Queen Victoria is my 29th cousin, four times removed.

Source: "The Timetables of History" 3rd Revised Edition, Bernard Grun, Simon & Schuster, New York 1991, page 450-451.

- ii. **Henry Sharpe** was born in 1832 in Sharon Spring, Schoharie County, New York. He died on 12 Oct 1905 in Ravenna, Portage County, Ohio.

Notes for Henry Sharpe:
General Notes:

The year Henry was born, the first streetcar - a horse-drawn vehicle called the John Mason - went into operation in New York City on November 14, 1832

Henry was a brother of John Elsefer Sharp II, and was the namesake of John's son, Henry. Henry was my grandfather, known after his 1895 move to Georgetown, Williamson County, Texas as Harry. We knew him as Papa Sharpe.

- iii. **Ellen Sharp** was born in 1834 in Sharon Spring, Schoharie County, New York. She died between 1860-12 Jul 1940[16].

- iv. **Thomas K. Sharp** was born in 1837 in Sharon Spring, Schoharie County, New York. He died in 1899 in Sharon Spings, Schoharie County, New York [17].

Notes for Thomas K. Sharp:
General Notes:

Thomas came from New York City, but was born near Sharon, New York. In 1888, he purchased the Sharon House Hotel in Sharon, New York from his older brother, Peter G. Sharp.

The Sharon House had been built in the early 1850's by Henry Moyer. Later, Fred Eigen owned it. He sold the hotel to Peter G. Sharp and Bement P. Sharp. I cannot identify who Bement was, but probably was kin. The hotel was owned by H. Benard Grossman when it burned in 1926, not to be restored. (Source: New Topographical Atlas, Schohaire County, New York, pp 48-50 & 55)

Generation 5

- 24. **George P. Sharp** son of Johann Peter Scherp and Eva Schneider was born about 1747 in

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Germantown, Columbia County, New York. He died on 24 Apr 1792.

Notes for George P. Sharp:

General Notes:

George is my third great grandfather. He was born the year that John Paul Jones was born, who later became famous as a naval officer in the American Revolution. That year, English scholar Dr. Samuel Johnson began his eight year marathon creation of the "Dictionary of the English Language," which sealed his place in American history as a truly significant contributor, even though he did not live here.

Source: "The Timetables of History" 3rd Revised Edition, Bernard Grun, Simon & Schuster, New York 1991, page 344.

George Sharp served in the Revolutionary War. He is cited in the "Calleudes of Revolutionary Manuscripts" in the office of the Secretary of State at Albany, New York (according to some private notes written in 1897 by an unnamed writer).

George served as a 2nd Lieutenant in Captain Herman Hoffman's Company, Colonel John Van Ness' Regiment of Minute Men. He was also 2nd Lieutenant in Captain Andrea Herman's Company, Colonel Morris Graham's Regiment of Foot Service of the U.S. under Command of Brigadier General Clinton. In the National Archives in Washington DC, I was able to locate a record (M-804, Roll #2158, Pension Applications for the American Revolutionary War) citing that a Pension was drawn by his widow. Even though George was only age 45 at his death, Rebecca, his widow, lived to an age of 93. This death date was estimated by the Pension record stating when the pension payments ceased.

George's American Revolutionary service is documented in files at both the Daughters of the American Revolution offices and the Sons of the American Revolution offices. He is the ancestor relationship by which I was certified to become a member of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Dallas (Texas) Chapter, October 26, 1988. My sponsor was Mr. Peter W. Orlebeke, President of that Chapter that year. Pete also is Suzanne's seventh cousin, once removed, through her Wellborn ancestry.

George Sharp's post war experience was as a hardware merchant in the firm of Sharp & Sahler in the Hudson River village of Germantown, New York.

In 1792, the year that George died, Kentucky became a state. The world's first chemical society was formed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. George P. Sharp died the same month of George Washington's casting of the first presidential veto on April 5, 1792, rejecting a congressional measure for apportioning representatives among the states.

Sources:

<http://www.infoplease.com/askeds/first-veto.html>

"The Timetables of History," 3rd Revised Edition, Bernard Grun, Simon & Schuster, New York 1991, pages 368-369.

In 1989, Suzanne and I made a long automobile trip from Texas through the northeast United States, which included touring around this part of New York State. In Germantown, just on the north side of it, we found a street named Sharp's Landing Road. It ran west of the main street of town, Highway 9G, toward the nearby Hudson River. We imagine that this is a location where some of George's enterprise endeavors took place. We understand he was a merchant and it could be well have been that he operated a river ferry service in that vicinity, which could have been the reason for the road's name.

One thing impressed us as we visited Germantown and the Hudson River. It is a very

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beautiful countryside, and one in which most anyone would consider it a pleasure to live.

25. **Margaret Rebecca Teater** daughter of Henrich Teater and Beletje Neher was born on 27 Oct 1750 in Rinebeck, Dutchess County, New York[18]. She died on 29 Feb 1844.

Notes for Margaret Rebecca Teater:

General Notes:

Even though George P. Sharpe was only age 45 at his death, Rebecca, his widow, lived to an age of 93.

This death date is interpreted by George's Pension record stating the date when the payments ceased. I located that record at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

George P. Sharp and Margaret Rebecca Teater were married on 23 Apr 1771[19, 20]. They had the following children:

- i. **Catharina Sharp** was born about 1772.
- ii. **Petrus G. Sharp** was born on 18 May 1775. He died on 18 Jul 1849 in Kingston, Ulster County, New York?.

Notes for Petrus G. Sharp:

General Notes:

Petrus (or, Peter as he was called) G. Sharp is my second great granduncle.

Peter was born about a week after the Second Continental Congress convened in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. That was the same week that American forces under the command of Col. Ethan Allen took Fort Ticonderoga, New York. It was the year that Daniel Boone began blazing the Wilderness Road from Fort Chriswell in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, through the Cumberland Gap in Kentucky and to the Ohio River where he established a fort he named Boonesborough. It also was the year when Patrick Henry gave his impassioned speech to the Virginia House of Burgesses on March 23, 1775, which concluded with "Give me Liberty or give me Death!"

Source: Gorton Carruth, "Encyclopedia of American Facts & Dates," Harper & Row, Publishers, New York, 1st edition 1817, 8th edition 1987, pages 88-89

He was born one month exactly from the date that Paul Revere began his ride on April 18, 1775 from Charlestown to Lexington, Massachusetts, warning American colonists that the British were coming.

Source: <http://darter.ocps.net/classroom/revolution/revere.htm>

Peter was born in the very cradle of the American Revolution. Peter G. Sharp became very successful as a businessman, becoming a man of wealth and influence in his community.

- iii. **Isabella Sharp** was born about 1777. She died in New York City, New York?.

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- iv. **Rebecca Sharp** was born about 1780. She died on 08 Sep 1854.
- v. **Heinrich Sharp** was born about 1782. He died on 25 Jan 1830.
- vi. **George G. Sharp** was born about 1784. He died in New York City New York ?.
- +12. vii. **John Elsefer Sharp** was born on 16 Jul 1787 in Germantown, Columbia County, NY. He married Eve Markle before 1811. He died on 22 May 1862 in Sharon Spings, Schoharie County, New York[10].
- viii. **Anna Maria Sharp** was born on 27 Feb 1790 in Probably Rhinebeck, Dutchess County, New York.

Generation 6

48. **Johann Peter Scherp** son of Jacob A. Scherp and Maria Catherina Becker[21] was born between 04 Aug 1710-25 Mar 1712 in New York State[22]. He died on 17 Feb 1781 in Germantown, Columbia County, New York[23].

Notes for Johann Peter Scherp:
General Notes:

Peter was born the year Queen Anne of England established the Ascotracas and it was the year Jonathan Swift published the "Conduct of the Allies." (Source: "The Timetables of History" 3rd Revised Edition, Bernard Grun, Simon & Schuster, New York 1991, pages 326-327)

Peter is my fourth great grandfather. He was a first generation birth in America for this family line of German Palatine emigrants. It is evident that Peter and his wife, Eva, were prominent citizens among the Palatine community settling in the New York section of this New World. They were baptism sponsors for quite a number of various infants in several different Reformed Churches of New York.

Peter Sharp was a freeholder at East Camp in 1763 (Albany County Freeholders Register).

He was a store owner that was subjected to some burglary. Peter's death came between the writing of his will in December 1780, which was at a time of illness, and when the will was proved in public record in February 1782. The will cites his sons George and Peter, his daughters Maria (wife of Peter Wisner), Gertie (wife of Frederick Maul), Margareta (unmarried), Catherina (widow of Philip Rockefeller & their children Petrus, Eva and Catharina). The executors were sons George and Petrus, along with friends Christian Philip and Henrick Will. Witnesses were Johannes Peter Russ, Abraham J. Delameter and Gerhard Daniel Cock, minister.

Peter died the year Herschel discovered the planet, Uranus. (Source: "The Timetables of History" 3rd Revised Edition, Bernard Grun, Simon & Schuster, New York 1991, page 363

49. **Eva Schneider** daughter of Johann Wilhelm Schneider and Anna Gertraud Betzer was born in 1712. She died on 30 Nov 1780.

Notes for Eva Schneider:
General Notes:

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The year of Eva's birth hailed the occurrence of the first fines for speeding being levied against reckless carters in Philadelphia! It also was the year that the first sperm whale was captured by an American, an event that radically changed for the good the Nantucket, Massachusetts whaling business.

Source: Gorton Carruth, "Encyclopedia of American Facts & Dates," Harper & Row, Publishers, New York, 1st edition 1817, 8th edition 1987, page 49.

Johann Peter Scherp and Eva Schneider were married on 13 May 1735 in Catskill Dutch Reformed Church, Germantown, New York[24]. They had the following children:

- i. **Anna Maria Scherp.**
- ii. **Gertraut Scherp.**
- iii. **Jacob Scherp.**
- iv. **Catherina Scherp.**
- v. **Peter Scherp.**
- vi. **Anna Margeretha Scherp.**
- vii. **Abraham Sharp.**

Notes for Abraham Sharp:
General Notes:

Abraham commenced business as a merchant at the Old Red Hook landing and finally settled as a merchant in Upper Red Hook Village, where he died. I believe this may be the location where Suzanne and I visited in 1988 where the road from the main highway down to the Hudson River was named Sharps Landing. We were just on the northern outskirts of Germantown, New York, which is where Red Hook was.

- viii. **Eva Sharp.** She died in Without issue.
- ix. **Maria Sharp** was born before 1738.
- x. **Gertrud Sharp** was born on 02 Jul 1738[25].
- xi. **Jacob Sharp** was born about 1741.

Notes for Jacob Sharp:
General Notes:

The year of Jacob's birth was truly a significant year in the world of Christian music. In England, George Frederick Handel began his whirlwind composition

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of "The Messiah" on August 22, 1741 and completed it in 24 days on September 14. It is the music that probably most Christians recognize, particularly the "Hallelujah Chorus," when people all over the world rise to stand in the tradition of England's King George II when he stood at first hearing these stirring words and lyrics.

- xii. **Catherina Sharp** was born on 31 Aug 1744 in Rhinebeck, New York. She married Johann Philip Rockefeller on 19 Sep 1768 in New York City, New York. She died after 1780 in Germantown, Columbia County, New York[26].

Notes for Catherina Sharp:
General Notes:

Catharina is my third great aunt. She is the second great aunt to industrialist John Davison Rockefeller.

On October 19, 1744, English revivalist George Whitefield, 29, arrived in Maine at the start of his second visit to America. Whitefield struggled to adapt the beliefs of Calvinism to the Arminian teachings of Methodists John and Charles Wesley.

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Whitefield

- +24. xiii. **George P. Sharp** was born about 1747 in Germantown, Columbia County, New York. He married Margaret Rebecca Teater on 23 Apr 1771[19, 20]. He died on 24 Apr 1792.
- xiv. **Peter Sharp** was born about 1750. He died on 30 Jan 1827 in Germantown, Columbia County, NY.

Notes for Peter Sharp:
General Notes:

Sharpe, Peter of New York, NY Born in New York. Member of New York state assembly, 1814-1821; Speaker of the New York State Assembly, 1820-1821; delegate to New York state constitutional convention, 1821; U.S. Representative from New York, 1821, 1823-1825 (2nd District 1821, 3rd District 1823-1825); defeated, 1824. Burial location unknown. (See also his congressional biography below.)

Source: <http://politicalgraveyard.com/index.html>

SHARPE, Peter, a Representative from New York; born in that State; completed preparatory studies; member of the Columbia County Medical Society in 1807; represented New York County as a member of the State assembly 1814-1821, and served as speaker in 1820 and 1821; delegate to the State constitutional convention in 1821; credentials of his election to the Seventeenth Congress were presented, but he did not qualify, and on December 12, 1821, Cadwallader D. Colden successfully contested his election; elected to the Eighteenth Congress (March 4, 1823-March 3, 1825); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1824 to the Nineteenth Congress. Source: Biographical Directory of the United States Congress: <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=S000297>

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xv. **Margareta Sharp** was born between 1751-1780.

Anna Gertraud Betzer Schneider.

Johann Peter Scherp and Anna Gertraud Betzer Schneider married. They had no children.

50. **Henrich Teater** son of Georg Teater and Anna Marie Meyer was born in Pfalz, Germany.

51. **Beletje Neher** daughter of Johann Frans Neher and Rebecca Kohl.

Henrich Teater and Beletje Neher were married in 1747 in St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Rhinebeck, New York. They had the following children:

+25. i. **Margaret Rebecca Teater** was born on 27 Oct 1750 in Rinebeck, Dutchess County, New York[18]. She married George P. Sharp on 23 Apr 1771[19, 20]. She died on 29 Feb 1844.

Generation 7

96. **Jacob A. Scherp** son of Peter Scherp and Margaretha Menke was born about Feb 1680 in Laubenheim, Germany. He died on 16 Feb 1734 in Livingston Manor, Columbia County, New York.

Notes for Jacob A. Scherp:
General Notes:

Jacob's ancestral home was in Laubenheim, Germany, five KM south of Bingen. The church books in Laubenheim begin 1659. His first documented appearance in North America was appearance on the Hunter Lists on August 4, 1710.

"A petition from Jacob Sharp, Christophel Hagadorn and Jacob Shoemaker, dated June 13, 1724, was presented to Gov. Burnet. Captain Jacob Sharp was an officer in the Albany County Militia of ye Palatins Villages in ye Manor of Livingston in 1733 ("Report of the State Historian," vol I, p. 573)."

Though Jacob obviously was a leader, we have little to report of actual details about his pursuit of life in North America. Zanger's New York Weekly Journal, dated May 18, 1734 says,

".....We hear from Livingston's Manor that one Mr. Jacob Scherp, a noted Trader and Farmer there, on the 16th of February last, had the Misfortune to be drowned in Livingston's Creek, by the stumbling of his Horse. His Body was found some days after by his own Son and a small Schoal in the Mouth of the Creek."

Source: Jones, Henry Z., Jr., "The Palatine Families of New York, Volumn II, Picton Press, Rockport, Maine, 1st printing 1985, 4th printing 2001, pages 850-851

97. **Maria Catherina Becker** was born in Herrstein, Germany.

Notes for Maria Catherina Becker:
General Notes:

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Maria was from Herrstein, Germany. Their marriage took place in Jacob's hometown of Laubenheim, however.

Source: Jones, Henry Z., Jr., "The Palatine Families of New York, Volumn II, Picton Press, Rockport, Maine, 1st printing 1985, 4th printing 2001, page 850.

Jacob A. Scherp and Maria Catherina Becker were married on 26 Dec 1702 in Laubenheim, Germany. They had the following children:

- i. **Georg Emmerich Scherp** was born on 10 Oct 1703 in Laubenheim, Germany. He married Anna Barbara Schmidt on 28 Dec 1724 in Kingston, New York[27, 28].

Notes for Georg Emmerich Scherp:
General Notes:

German-born Georg Emmerich Scherp was an immigrant to America as a seven year old child with his family who were in the migration of 1710 to New York, settling down on the Hudson River. He is my fourth greatgrand uncle.

A 1767 map of Rensselaerwyck, New York, made by John Bleeker shows the farm of George Sharp very near the present line of East Greenbush. His name took a typical evolution. His baptismal registration in the Laubenheim Church books is Georg Emmerich Scherp. His naturalization registration in the Albany Naturalization Lists is Jurich Emrig Scherp.

Source: Hank Z. Jones, Jr., "The Palatine Families of New York, Volumes I and II, Picton Press, Rockport, Maine, 1st printing 1985, fourth printing, 2001, pages 851-2

- ii. **Magnalena Scherp** was born before 06 Sep 1705 in Laubenheim, Germany [29]. She died on 08 May 1707 in Laubenheim, Germany[30].
- iii. **Maria Magdalena Scherp** was born before 04 Mar 1708 in Laubenheim, Germany[29]. She died before 04 Aug 1710 in Household listing on Hunter Lists 8/2/1710 lists only 1 child age 10 or less, which must have been Georg [27].
- +48. iv. **Johann Peter Scherp**[21] was born between 04 Aug 1710-25 Mar 1712 in New York State[22]. He married Eva Schneider on 13 May 1735 in Catskill Dutch Reformed Church, Germantown, New York[24]. He died on 17 Feb 1781 in Germantown, Columbia County, New York[23].

Anna Maria Bomper was born in Laubenheim, Germany. She died between 05 May-02 Nov 1728.

Notes for Anna Maria Bomper:
General Notes:

Little is known about Anna Maria. She was recorded at a sponsorship on May 5, 1728 and her husband married his second wife later that year on November 2nd. Thus, her date of death is estimated to be between those two occasions. Obviously, Jacob did not need to deal much with being a widower very long.

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Jacob A. Scherp and Anna Maria Bomper were married on 26 Dec 1702 in Laubenheim, Germany. They had no children.

98. **Johann Wilhelm Schneider** son of John Dietrich Schneider and Anna Maria Dunschman was born on 24 Oct 1690 in Germany. He died between 15 Sep 1760-26 Feb 1764 in Rynbeck, Dutchess County, New York.

Notes for Johann Wilhelm Schneider:
General Notes:

Destined to become the father-in-law of Peter Sharp, husband of his wife, Eva, Johann is found on the Rotterdam lists of 1709, sailing as a single man by the name of Johan Wilhellem Sneiter in the 6th party.

His will named his wife, Gertruy, and included among his children, "Eva, wife of Pieter Scherp."

99. **Anna Gertraud Betzer.**

Notes for Anna Gertraud Betzer:
General Notes:

Anna was undoubtedly a relative, but not necessarily a daughter of Herman Betzer, a passenger in the 1709 shipping of German Palatines to New York.

Johann Wilhelm Schneider and Anna Gertraud Betzer were married about 1711. They had the following children:

- +49. i. **Eva Schneider** was born in 1712. She married Johann Peter Scherp on 13 May 1735 in Catskill Dutch Reformed Church, Germantown, New York[24]. She died on 30 Nov 1780.

100. **Georg Teater** son of Johann Thaeter and Anna Maria Meyer was born in Wurttenburg, Germany.

101. **Anna Marie Meyer** daughter of John Frederick Meyer and Anna Barbara Scheurmann.

Georg Teater and Anna Marie Meyer were married on 25 Apr 1715 in New York City, New York. They had the following children:

- +50. i. **Henrich Teater** was born in Pfalz, Germany. He married Beletje Neher in 1747 in St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Rhinebeck, New York.

102. **Johann Frans Neher** son of Johann Carl Neher and Louise Hornberger was born on 04 Jul 1703 in Birkenfeld, Pfalz[31]. He died on 28 Nov 1733.

103. **Rebecca Kohl** daughter of Wilhelm Kohl was born in New York City, New York.

Johann Frans Neher and Rebecca Kohl were married on 24 Nov 1724 in New York City, New York. They had the following children:

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- +51. i. **Beletje Neher**. She married Henrich Teater in 1747 in St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Rhinebeck, New York.
-

Generation 8

192. **Peter Scherp** son of Otto Scherp and Margaretha Kerb was born about 1660 in Laubenheim, Germany. He died about 1690[32].

Notes for Peter Scherp:
General Notes:

His date of death is not certain, but the confidence is that he was deceased by 1690.

193. **Margaretha Menke** daughter of Thielman Menck and Apollonia was born about 1650.

Notes for Margaretha Menke:
General Notes:

Peter was a warden at the church in Laubenheim.

Peter Scherp and Margaretha Menke were married on 24 Nov 1674. They had the following children:

- i. **Johann Philip Scherp** was born about 1679. He married Anna Margaretha Barbara Mathez on 26 Nov 1711. He died on 30 Jul 1730 in Germany[32].

Notes for Johann Philip Scherp:
General Notes:

Phillip was baptized as Philippum Scherp, but obviously his name became Anglicized. He is my fifth great grand uncle.

- +96. ii. **Jacob A. Scherp** was born about Feb 1680 in Laubenheim, Germany. He married Maria Catherina Becker on 26 Dec 1702 in Laubenheim, Germany. He died on 16 Feb 1734 in Livingston Manner, Columbia County, New York.

196. **John Dietrich Schneider** son of Anthonius Schneider and Christiana.

197. **Anna Maria Dunschman** daughter of Adam Dunschman and Catherine Frantz.

John Dietrich Schneider and Anna Maria Dunschman married. They had the following children:

- +98. i. **Johann Wilhelm Schneider** was born on 24 Oct 1690 in Germany. He married Anna Gertraud Betzer about 1711. He died between 15 Sep 1760-26 Feb 1764 in Rynbeck, Dutchess County, New York.

200. **Johann Thaeter**.

201. **Anna Maria Meyer** daughter of Johann Fridrich Meyer.
-

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Johann Thaeter and Anna Maria Meyer were married on 26 Apr 1715. They had the following children:

+10 i. **Georg Teater** was born in Wurttenburg, Germany. He married Anna Marie Meyer on 25 Apr 1715 in New York City, New York.

202. **John Frederick Meyer** son of Thomas Meyer. He died in 1709 in Wurttenburg, Germany.

203. **Anna Barbara Scheurmann** daughter of Ulrich Scheurmann.

John Frederick Meyer and Anna Barbara Scheurmann married. They had the following children:

+10 i. **Anna Marie Meyer**. She married Georg Teater on 25 Apr 1715 in New York City, New York.

204. **Johann Carl Neher** son of Jacob Naher. He died on 25 Jan 1733.

Notes for Johann Carl Neher:
General Notes:

Johann was a Palatine volunteer in the Canadian expedition of 1711. He was naturalized with his son, Frans, at Kingston in 1715.

205. **Louise Hornberger** daughter of Franz Hornberger.

Johann Carl Neher and Louise Hornberger were married on 08 Mar 1701 in Birkenfeld. They had the following children:

+10 i. **Johann Frans Neher** was born on 04 Jul 1703 in Birkenfeld, Pfalz[31]. He married Rebecca Kohl on 24 Nov 1724 in New York City, New York. He died on 28 Nov 1733.

Maria Apollonia Matthes.

Johann Carl Neher and Maria Apollonia Matthes were married on 29 Aug 1710. They had no children.

Anna Constantia Reichart.

Johann Carl Neher and Anna Constantia Reichart were married on 11 Jan 1715. They had no children.

206. **Wilhelm Kohl.**

Wilhelm Kohl and unknown spouse married. They had the following children:

+10 i. **Rebecca Kohl** was born in New York City, New York. She married Johann Frans Neher on 24 Nov 1724 in New York City, New York.

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Generation 9

384. **Otto Scherp**[33] was born about 1628 in Laubenheim, Germany. He died before 1691[34].

Notes for Otto Scherp:
General Notes:

"Scharff" is thought to be perhaps the earliest German form of our Sharp(e) name. It is a South German nickname for an energetic, active person from the Middle High German. One of the most common given names used with it was Otto, which is the name of the earliest ancestor of whom we know, where our story begins.

From the Laubenheim Church records, we have a marriage date of November 20, 1666. Otto would have been 38 years old at that time, so it is easy to assume that is his second of his two marriages.

After our family came to North America in 1710, the name changed by the mid 1700's to the English form of Sharp. It is of interest to note, not only its similarity to the German form, but that it's Middle English meaning is 'keen,' 'active,' and 'quick.' All of the meanings we see represent attractive, wholesome characteristics with which we would want to identify.

Source: Patrick Hanks, Editor, Dictionary of American Family Names, Oxford University Press, New York, New York, 2003, Card #929.40973D554 2003 V.III, Dallas Public Library, Genealogical Section, pages 283 and 331.

German-born Otto Scherp is thought to have had more than one wife, as the Laubenheim Church records said that Peter was by his first wife. We do not know the name of Otto's other wife or wives. It is thought that perhaps our Surname in its earliest form may have been VonScharff, but we are unable to document that. Otto is my 7th great grandfather.

Otto was born the same year as famous John Bunyan was born, author of "Pilgrims Progress." This was the year that Peter Minuit, Director-General of the Dutch West India Company's settlement in North America, buying the entire island of Manhattan from native American Indian chiefs for merchandise valued at 60 guilders (about \$24). The Dutch colony of New Amsterdam was founded on the Hudson River, not far from where Otto's grandson was to settle with some 3,000 other German Palatines in 1710.

Source: "The Timetables of History" 3rd Revised Edition, Bernard Grun, Simon & Schuster, New York 1991, page 283.

Unknown.

Otto Scherp and Unknown married. They had no children.

385. **Margaretha Kerb.**

Otto Scherp and Margaretha Kerb were married on 20 Nov 1666 in Laubenheim, Germany. They had the following children:

- +19 i. **Peter Scherp** was born about 1660 in Laubenheim, Germany. He married
2. Margaretha Menke on 24 Nov 1674. He died about 1690[32].
- ii. **Magdalena Scherp** was born about 1668.
- iii. **Engel Scherp** was born about 1672 in Germany. She married Peter Stoppelbein on 14 Jan 1691. She died in Nov 1709.

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iv. **Johannes Scherp** was born about 1680.

v. **Farin Elisab Scherp** was born about 1683.

386. **Thielman Menck.**

387. **Apollonia** was born in 1619. She died on 10 Sep 1687[32].

Thielman Menck and Apollonia married.They had the following children:

+19 i. **Margaretha Menke** was born about 1650. She married Peter Scherp on 24
3. Nov 1674.

392. **Anthonius Schneider.**

393. **Christiana.**

Anthonius Schneider and Christiana married.They had the following children:

+19 i. **John Dietrich Schneider.**
6.

394. **Adam Dunschman.**

395. **Catherine Frantz.**

Adam Dunschman and Catherine Frantz married.They had the following children:

+19 i. **Anna Maria Dunschman.**
7.

402. **Johann Fridrich Meyer.** He died before 1715.

Notes for Johann Fridrich Meyer:

General Notes:

Johann died before his daughter, Anna Maria, married.

Johann Fridrich Meyer and unknown spouse married.They had the following children:

+20 i. **Anna Maria Meyer.** She married Johann Thaeter on 26 Apr 1715.
1.

404. **Thomas Meyer.**

Thomas Meyer and unknown spouse married.They had the following children:

+20 i. **John Frederick Meyer.** He died in 1709 in Wurttenburg, Germany.

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Generation 9

2.

406. **Ulrich Scheurmann.**

Ulrich Scheurmann and unknown spouse married.They had the following children:

+20 i. **Anna Barbara Scheurmann.**
3.

408. **Jacob Naher.**

Jacob Naher and unknown spouse married.They had the following children:

+20 i. **Johann Carl Neher.** He married Louise Hornberger on 08 Mar 1701 in
4. Birkenfeld. He died on 25 Jan 1733.

410. **Franz Hornberger.**

Franz Hornberger and unknown spouse married.They had the following children:

+20 i. **Louise Hornberger.** She married Johann Carl Neher on 08 Mar 1701 in
5. Birkenfeld.

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- 1 Internet, <http://www.antiquebottles.com/kilmer.html>.
- 2 Census, 1880, Year: 1880; Census Place: Binghamton, Broome, New York; Roll: T9_810; Family History Film: 1254810; Page: 109A; Enumeration District: 35; Image: 0351.
- 3 Census, 1920, Bringhamton, Brome County, New York, Jan 3, 1920, indicated her birth, state and approximate date of birth.
- 4 Census, 1920, Bringhamton, Brome County, New York, Jan 3, 1920, she still lived at, home with her family as a single woman.
- 5 Census, 1900, Binghamton, Broome County, New York, Ward 3, Supervisor Dist #11,, Enumerator #8, Sheet #13-A, Willis show a married, but only family, member in household; rest are servants. Indication was that Willis, had been married for 5 years.
- 6 Ancestry.com, Public Member Trees (Provo, UT, USA, Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2006), www.ancestry.com, Database online. Record for Jonas M Kilmer.
- 7 Ancestry.com, Public Member Trees (Provo, UT, USA, Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2006), www.ancestry.com, Database online. Record for Daniel Kilmer.
- 8 Personal visit by D. A. Sharpe to Leesville Cemetary, 1998, Personal visit by D. A. Sharpe to Leesville Cemetary, 1998., tombstone, inscription.

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- 15 Larry L. Miller, Ohio Place Names (Name: Indiana University Press, Bloomington & Indianapolis;), p. 46, Charlestron is a tiny hamlet in Portage County, Ohilo, named for Mr., Charles Curtiss, an early settler.
- 16 Correspondence, Page 1, A two page letter from the law firm of Hinman, Howard & Kattell of, Binghamton, New York, dated December 28, 1942, addressed to Harry S., Sharpe, Sr. of Georgetown, Williamson County, Texas about his, addistance to them concerning Sharpe relatives and about the estate of.
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- 19 Jones, Henry Z., "The Palatine Families of New York", Universal City,California 1985, Page 853.
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